REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present Amendment is in response to the Office Action having a mailing date of November 2, 2004. Claims 1-10 are pending in the present Application. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 2. Applicant has also added claims 11-14. Consequently, claims 1-14 remain pending in the present Application.

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 2 to remove the alphabetical designation of the steps of the method. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is added and that the scope of claims 1 and 2 is not narrowed. Applicant has added claims 11-14. Claims 11 and 13 recite that at least one sub-partition of the partition does not require a password. Support for the amendment can be found in the specification, page 7, lines 10-12. Claims 12 and 14 recite that an additional password is provided for the partition. Support for new claims 12 and 14 can be found in the specification, page 7, lines 22-23. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is added.

Applicant has amended the specification on pages 2 and 7 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. However, in lieu of amending pages 7-9 discussion Figure 5, Applicant has amended Figure 5 to designate the method 210. Applicant has also amended Figure 3 to in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Thus, Applicant has provided herewith substitute sheets including Figures 3 and 5. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is added.

In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Applicants admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin TDB-ACC-NO: NN9611103 (Bulletin). In so doing, the Examiner acknowledged that the AAPA does not teach step (b), allowing a password to be provided for each

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 3 and 5.

Attachment: (2) Replacement Sheets
                 (2) Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

of the plurality of sub-partitions, the password being required for a user to utilize a corresponding sub-partition as a boot source. Instead, the Examiner relied upon the Bulletin for this teaching.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's rejection. Independent claim 1 recites a method for providing a trusted boot source, which allows a plurality of sub-partitions to be defined for the partition, and provides a password for each of the sub-partitions. The password is required for a user to utilize a corresponding sub-partition as a boot source. Claim 6 recites an analogous computer system.

The AAPA in view of the Bulletin fail to teach or suggest providing a password for each sub-partition of the partition and requiring the password for a user to utilize the corresponding sub-partition. As the Examiner has acknowledged, while the AAPA describes booting from different sub-partitions, the AAPA fails to teach or suggest the use of passwords. The Bulletin does describe the use of passwords for booting partitions. In particular, the Bulletin uses passwords to address the problem of children accessing the parents' partition and "modify[ing] or corrupt[ing] programs or data." Bulletin, paragraph 1, lines 9-10. Thus, the Bulletin describes requiring a password to be entered before booting commences to prevent unauthorized access to different partitions. Bulletin, paragraph 1, lines 14-15.

Although the Bulletin functions well for its intended purpose, the AAPA in view of the Bulletin fails to teach or suggest the method and computer system recited in claims 1 and 6, respectively. In particular, the AAPA in view of the Bulletin fails to teach or suggest allowing the recited password(s) for sub-partitions such that at least one sub-partition allows the computer-system to be reconfigured while allowing the partition to be accessed without providing the password(s). If the Bulletin is combined with the AAPA, the combination might provide a password for the partition using the teachings of the Bulletin. As described in the AAPA, the sub-

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partitions are a part of the partition. Thus, once the password is provided for the partition, all sub-partitions would be accessible by a user. In the combination, therefore, passwords would not be provided for sub-partitions and different sub-partitions would not be made accessible based upon the passwords. Consequently, the AAPA in view of the Bulletin fail to teach or suggest providing a password for each sub-partition of the partition and requiring the password for a user to utilize the corresponding sub-partition. The AAPA in view of the Bulletin thus fail to teach or suggest the method and computer system recited in claims 1 and 6. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 6 are allowable over the cited references.

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 depend upon claims 1 and 6, respectively. Consequently, the arguments herein apply with full force to claims 2-5 and 7-10. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-5 and 7-10 are allowable over the cited references.

New claims 11-14 depend upon independent claims 1 and 6. Consequently, the arguments herein apply with full force to claims 11-14. Claims 11-14 are thus allowable over the cited references. Furthermore, claims 11-14 are separately allowable over the cited references.

New claims 11 and 13 recite that at least one sub-partition of the partition does not require a password. As discussed above, the AAPA in view of the Bulletin fail to teach or suggest providing passwords for sub-partitions. Even assuming, *arguendo*, that the AAPA in view of the Bulletin suggest providing passwords for sub-partitions (a proposition to which Applicant does not agree), a password would apparently be provided for each sub-partition. Applicant has found no discussion in the Bulletin or the AAPA of providing passwords for some sub-partition, but not others. Consequently, any combination of the AAPA and the Bulletin would also fail to have this feature. The AAOA in view of the Bulletin thus fails to teach or suggest the method and
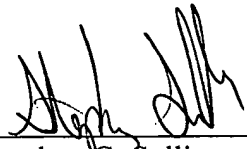
computer system recited in claims 11 and 13. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 11 and 13 are allowable over the cited references.

New claims 12 and 14 recite that an additional password is provided for the partition. Thus, both the partition and the sub-partitions are password protected. As discussed above, the AAPA in view of the Bulletin fail to teach or suggest providing passwords for sub-partitions. Even assuming, *arguendo*, that the AAPA in view of the Bulletin suggest providing passwords for sub-partitions (a proposition to which Applicant does not agree), a password would apparently be provided for the sub-partitions only. Applicant has found no discussion in the Bulletin or the AAPA of providing a hierarchy of passwords. Stated differently, Applicant has not found a discussion in the AAPA or the Bulletion of providing passwords for the sub-partition, and other passwords for the partition of which the sub-partitions are a part. Consequently, any combination of the AAPA and the Bulletin would also fail to have this feature. The AAOA in view of the Bulletin thus fails to teach or suggest the method and computer system recited in claims 12 and 14. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12 and 14 are allowable over the cited references.

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

February 2, 2005
Date

Stephen G. Sullivan
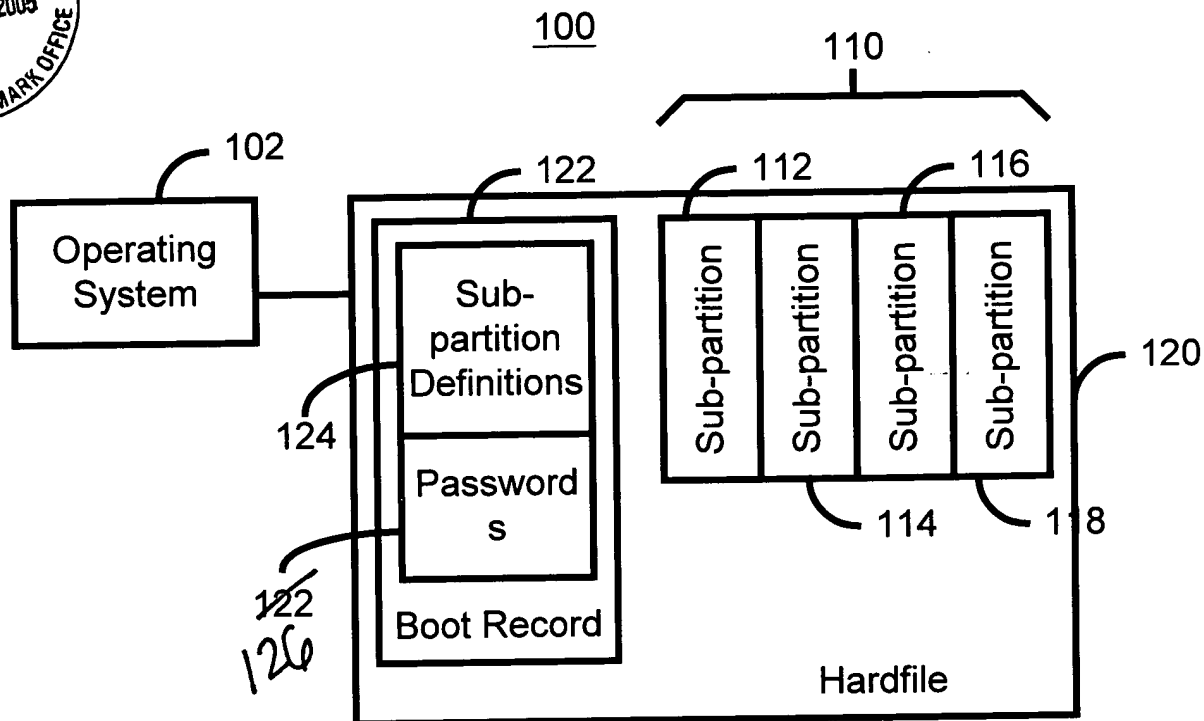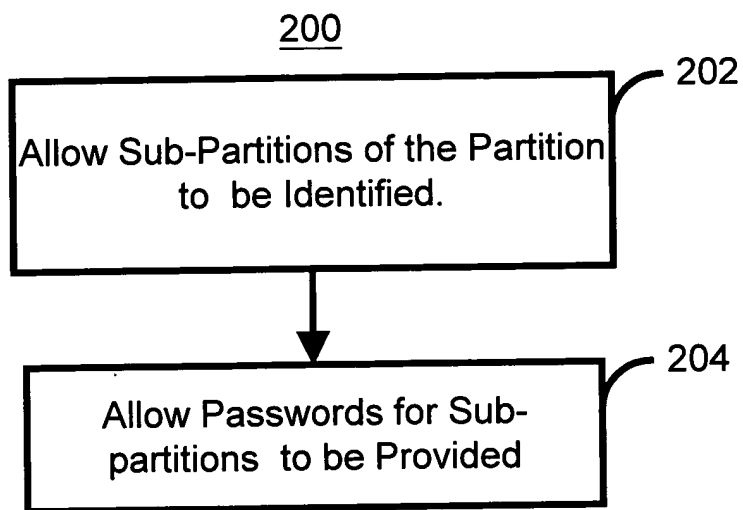Attorney for Applicant(s)
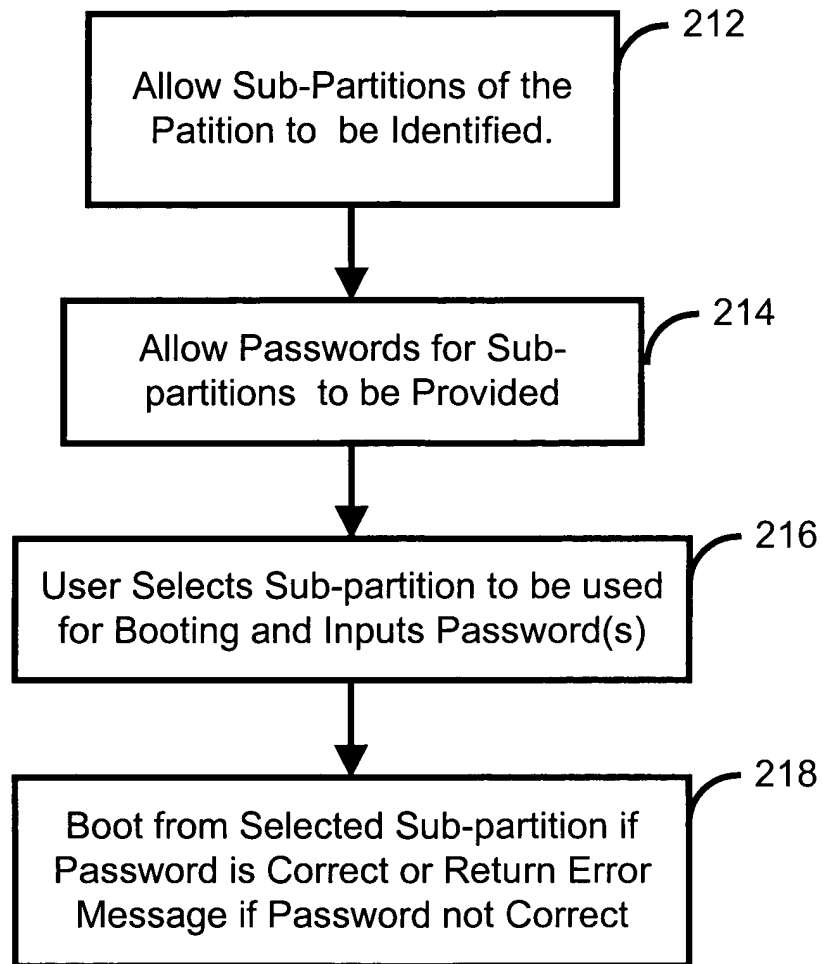Reg. No. 38,329
(650) 493-4540

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Figure 3

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Figure 4

210
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Allow Sub-Partitions of the
Patition to be Identified. — 212

Allow Passwords for Sub-
partitions to be Provided — 214

User Selects Sub-partition to be used
for Booting and Inputs Password(s) — 216

Boot from Selected Sub-partition if
Password is Correct or Return Error
Message if Password not Correct — 218

Figure 5